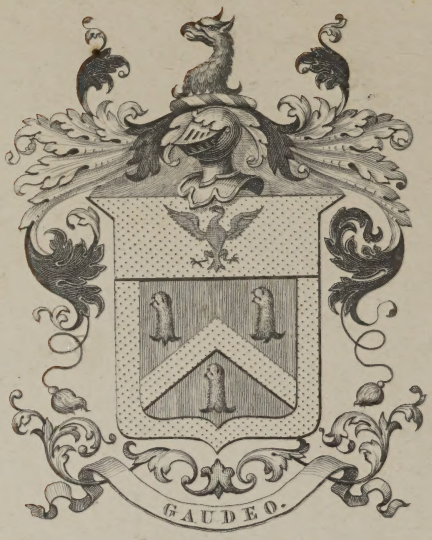

By Thomas Nairne

A

LETTER

FROM

South Carolina;

GIVING AN

ACCOUNT

OF THE

Soil, Air, Product, Trade, Government, Laws, Religion, People, Military Strength, &c. of that Province;

Together with the Manner and necessary Charges of SETTLING a PLANTATION there, and the *Annual Profit* it will produce.

Written by a Swiss *Gentleman, to his Friend at* Bern.

LONDON,
Printed for *A. Baldwin,* near the *Oxford-Arms* in *Warwick-lane.* 1710.

SIR,

BY the laſt Letters from you, which I had the Honour to receive, you was pleas'd to acquaint me with the Intention of ſome worthy Gentlemen of *Bern*, to ſettle a Fund for tranſporting annually a few Supernumeraries of our Nation, to the Province of *Carolina*; a Deſign both truly pious and generous, which at the ſame time conſults the Intereſt of Religion, and the Civil Benefit of Mankind. How much better is it for thoſe who have but a ſmall Subſiſtence at home, to retire to a Place where they may with moderate Induſtry be ſupplied with all the Neceſſaries of Life, than to follow the miſerable Trade of Deſtroying for a Shilling a Day? How much better for Men to improve their own Lands, for the Uſe of themſelves, and Poſterity; to ſit under their own Vine, and eat the Fruits of their Labour; than to be Inſtruments in the Hands of Tyrants, to ravage and depopulate the Earth, and that only to procure a poor Maintenance, and for

which there muſt hereafter be render'd a ſtrict and ſevere Account?

Since I have been ſettled here, and for ſome time enjoyed the many Pleaſures and Delights of a quiet peaceable Life, I have often reflected on the unhappy Condition of the Military Imployment, which I exchanged for this wherewith I am now bleſſed. What conſtant Troubles, Dangers and Fatigues attend it! How deplorable is it to behold the daily Ravages we are oblig'd to make! Who would not be mov'd with the Tears and Lamentations of the miſerable? A free People, ſurrounded with potent Neighbours, muſt indeed and ought to be brave, and military, perfectly vers'd in Arms, either for their own Defence, or to aſſiſt their injur'd Allies. Nor is there any Name more great and noble than that of a Soldier; but then he muſt be one, who, like the Ancient Heroes, makes it his Buſineſs to deſtroy Monſters, aſſiſt the Impotent, redreſs Injuries, oppoſe Tyranny, and root out Oppreſſion from the Face of the Earth. But to follow War meerly as a Trade, to hire ones ſelf to the beſt Bidder, withour Reſpect to the Merits of the Cauſe, is what I can never reconcile to the Principles either of revealed, or natural Religion: For this ſeems to be the perfect

Reverſe

Reverſe of doing as we would be done by. And what ſhocks me moſt of all is, that ſome People devote their Children to the Wars before, or at leaſt as ſoon as they are born. This ſeems to me rather worſe, if poſſible, than the old heatheniſh Cuſtom of ſacrificing them to appeaſe the Wrath of ſome angry God, for then the Miſchief ended with the Lives of ſome few unfortunate Victims; but we ſacrifice ours to a devouring Deity, who together with their own Deaths makes them the Occaſion of that of many Innocents. And what renders theſe things more inexcuſable is, that 'tis plain, Mankind is not reduc'd to the unhappy Neceſſity of Killing one another for Bread; ſince upon a due Calculation, the Earth is ſo far from being overſtock'd with People, that 'tis capable of containing ten times the Number of its preſent Inhabitants. What vaſt and goodly Countries are there in the World, wholly, or for the moſt part unpeopled, and yet very capable of producing all things both for the Neceſſity and Conveniency of Life? An Inſtance of which is this Province, whereof ſince you are pleas'd to deſire ſome Account from me, I ſhall, without any Apology, proceed to obey your Commands, and in as ſmall a compaſs as poſſible, give you a View of ſuch

Things as are neceſſary to be known, by one who deſigns to ſettle there, to which I ſhall principally confine my Diſcourſe.

Deſcription. *Carolina* is a Province of the *Engliſh America*, joining on the North-Eaſt to *Virginia*, between 36 and 29 Degrees North Latitude. It is divided into two Governments, commonly call'd *North* and *South Carolina*. *North Carolina* joins to *Virginia*, and that Part thereof now inhabited by the *Engliſh*, lies between 35 and 36 Degrees N. Latitude. The Parts of *South Carolina*, now poſſeſs'd by the *Engliſh*, lie between 32 and 33 Degrees N. Latitude, and about 60 Degrees Longitude, Weſt from the Lands-End of *England*.

Between the ſame Parallels with *South Carolina*, lie ſome of the moſt fertile Countries in the World, as ſome Parts of the Coaſt of *Barbary*, all the middle Part of *China*, from the middle to the South Parts of *Japan*, thoſe Countries of *India* about *Lahore*, the beſt part of *Perſia*, *Egypt* and *Syria*.

Situation. *Carolina* is in general a plain champain Country, having no conſiderable Hills for the Space of 1000 Miles together along the Coaſt, within 100 Miles of the Sea. There are, however, almoſt every where, Riſings or gentle Aſcents, from 5 Foot to 50, 60, or 70, above

above the Level of the highest Tide.

Behind these vast champain Countries lies a high Ridge of Mountains, which beginning in the Lat. of 34, 90 or 100 Miles to the Eastward of the *Missisipi*, run almost parallel with the Sea-coast, behind all *Florida*, both the *Carolinas*, *Virginia* and *Maryland*. The most common and usual Distance from the Foot of the Mountains to the Sea, is about 200 Miles. The Springs and Fountains of most of our great Rivers are in these Hills, which abound with innumerable Rivulets, and these meeting afterwards together, form many large Rivers; by the Course of which it appears, that the Land has a gradual, tho' insensible Descent from the Mountains to the Sea.

This great Plain is one continued Forest, well stock'd with Oaks of several Kinds, Chesnut, Walnut, Hickery; several Kinds of Firr, Cypress of two Kinds, Cedar, Poplar, or the Tulip-tree, Laurel, Bay, Myrtle, Hasel, Beech, Ash, Elm, and Variety of others, whose Names are scarce known. *Trees.*

The Sea-coast is full of Islands, Sounds, Bays, Marshes, Rivers, and Creeks of Salt-Water, where the Tide useth to rise from 5 Foot to 7, seldom higher. These are well stor'd with great Variety of excellent Fish, the most common whereof are Bass, Drum, Whitings, *Fish.*

tings, Trouts, Herrings, Mullets, Rocks, Sturgeons, Shads, Sheepſheads, Place, Flounders, ſmall Turtle, Crabs, Oiſters, Muſcles, Cockles, Shrimps, *&c.* Such Fiſh that are common and not eaten, are Whales, Grampoiſes, Porpoiſes, Sharks, Dog-fiſh, Garb, Stingrays, Saw-fiſh, Fidlers, and Periwincles.

This Province is capable of containing above 60 times the Number of its preſent Inhabitants; and there is no Place in the Continent of *America*, where People can tranſport themſelves to greater Advantage.

South Carolina. Now as *South Carolina* far excells the other in Improvements and navigable Rivers, I ſhall confine my Diſcourſe to that, and acquaint you with its Product, Trade, Government, People, Laws, and laſtly, with an Account of what is neceſſary to ſettle a Man comfortably there.

Product. Beſides the Things already mention'd, *South Carolina* naturally produces Black Mulberries, Walnuts, Cheſnuts, Chincapines, which is a ſmall Cheſnut, and five or ſix Kinds of Acorns, all which the *Indians*, like the Primitive Race of Mankind, make Uſe of for Food; wild Potatoes, and ſeveral other eatable Roots, wild Plums, Variety of Grapes, Medlars, Huckle-berries, Strawberries, Haſel-nuts, Myrtle-berries, of which Wax is made; alſo Cedar-berries, Sumach,

mach, Saſſafras, China-Root, great and ſmall Snake-root, with Variety of other Phyſical Roots and Herbs, and many Flowers, which ſpring up of themſelves, and flouriſh in their Kind, every Seaſon of the Year.

Many things have likewiſe been tranſplanted hither, which thrive very well with us, as White Mulberries, Grapes from the *Maderas*, and elſewhere; all Kinds of *Engliſh* Garden-herbs, ſix or ſeven Sorts of Potatoes, all of them very good; *Indian* Corn three Sorts, *Indian* Peaſe five or ſix Kinds, *Indian* Beans ſeveral Kinds, Kidney-beans, *French* Beans, Pompions, Squaſhes, Gourds, Pomelons, Cucumbers, Muſk-melons, Water-melons, Tobacco, Rice three or four Sorts, Oats, Rie, Barley, and ſome Wheat, tho' not much.

Our Fruits are Apples, Pears, Quinces, Figs three or four Kinds, Oranges, Pomegranates, Peaches fourteen or fifteen Sorts. *Fruits planted.*

Tho' we have as great Variety of good Peaches as any Place, perhaps, in the World, yet the principal Uſe made of them is to feed Hogs, for which End, large Orchards are planted. The Peach-trees with us are all Standards; they yield Fruit in three Years from the Stone, the fourth Year bear plentifully, and the fifth are large ſpreading Trees.

Moſt

Moſt Kinds of *Britiſh* Fruits proſper beſt up in the Country, at ſome Diſtance from Salt Water; but Figs, Peaches, Pomegranates and the like, grow beſt nigh the Sea.

Seaſons of Sowing. Our Seaſon of Sowing is from the firſt of *March* to the tenth of *June*. The principal Seed-time of Rice, from the firſt of *April* to the twentieth of *May*; of *Indian* Corn, Peaſe and Beans, the laſt Week of *March*, all *April*, *May*, and the firſt ten Days of *June*. In *March* and *April* we ſet Potatoes, Pompions, Cucumbers, Melons, Kidney-beans, *&c.*

The uſual Produce of an Acre of *Indian* Corn, is from 18 to 30 Buſhels, and 6 Buſhels of *Indian* Peaſe, which run like a Vine among the Corn: About a Gallon of *Indian* Corn ſows an Acre.

Rice is ſowed in Furrows, about 18 Inches diſtant, a Peck uſually ſows an Acre, which yields ſeldom leſs than 30 Buſhels, or more than 60, but betwixt theſe two, as the Land is either better or worſe.

Harveſt. Rice is reap'd in *September*, to the eighth of *October*; *Indian* Corn and Peaſe from the firſt of *October* to the tenth of *November*: Several Kinds of Pulſe are ripe in *May* and *June*.

Ripe Fruits. We have Pompions, Melons, Cucumbers, Squaſhes, and other Vine-Fruits, which ripen, and are eat al the Summer,

Summer, from the middle of *June* to the first of *October*. Fig-trees bear two Crops a Year, one ripe at the End of *June*, the other all *August*. By so great Variety of Peaches, Melocotons, and Nectarines, there is this Advantage, that we have them in Season from the 20th of *June* to the End of *September*, for during all that Time, one Kind or another of them is in Perfection.

Rice is clean'd by Mills, turned with Oxen or Horses. 'Tis very much sow'd here, not only because it is a vendible Commodity, but thriving best in low moist Lands, it inclines People to improve that Sort of Ground, which being planted a few Years with Rice, and then laid by, turns to the best Pasture.

Silk-worms with us are hatch'd from the Eggs about the 6th of *March*, Nature having wisely ordain'd them to enter into this new Form of Being, at the same time that the Mulberry-Leaves, which are their Food, begin to open. Being attended and fed six Weeks, they eat no more, but have small Bushes set up for them to spin themselves into Balls, which thrown into warm Water, are wound off into raw Silk. *Silk-Worms.*

Rosin, Tar and Pitch are all produc'd from the Pine-trees; Rosin, by cutting Channels in the standing green Trees, that meet in a Point at the Foot of the *Rosin.*

Tree,

Tree, where two or three ſmall Pieces of Board are fitted to receive it. The Channels are cut as high as one can reach with an Axe, and the Bark is peeled off from all thoſe Parts of the Tree that are expos'd to the Sun, that the Heat of it may the more eaſily force out the Turpentine, which falling upon the Boards placed at the Root, is gather'd and laid in Heaps, which melted in great Kettles, becomes Roſin.

Tar. Tar is made thus: Firſt they prepare a circular Floor of Clay, declining a little towards the Center, from which is laid a Pipe of Wood, whoſe upper Part is even with the Floor, and reaches 2 Foot without the Circumference; under this End the Earth is dug away, and Barrels placed to receive the Tar as it runs. Upon the Floor is built up a large Pile of dry Pine-wood, ſplit in Pieces, and ſurrounded with a Wall of Earth, which covers it all over, only a little at the Top, where the Fire is firſt kindled. After the Fire begins to burn, they cover that likewiſe with Earth, to the End there may be no Flame, but only Heat ſufficient to force the Tar downward into the Floor. They temper the Heat as they pleaſe, by thruſting a Stick through the Earth, and letting the Air in at as many Places as they ſee convenient.

Pitch

Pitch is made either by boiling Tar in large Iron Kettles, ſet in Furnaces, or by burning it in round Clay-holes, made in the Earth. *Pitch.*

Beſides the various Sorts of Food produc'd by the Earth, *South Carolina* abounds with black Cattle, to a Degree much beyond any other *Engliſh* Colony; which is chiefly owing to the Mildneſs of the Winter, whereby the Planters are freed from the Trouble of providing for them, ſuffering them to feed all Winter in the Woods. Theſe Creatures have mightily increas'd ſince the firſt ſettling of the Colony, about 40 Years ago. It was then reckon'd a great deal to have three or four Cows, but now ſome People have 1000 Head, but for one Man to have 200 is very common. *Cattle.*

We have likewiſe Hogs in abundance, which go daily to feed in the Woods, and come home at Night; alſo ſome Sheep, and Goats. *Hogs, &c.*

There are tame Fowls of all Sorts, and great Variety of wild Fowl, as Turkeys, Geeſe, Ducks, wild Pidgeons, Partridges, Brants, Sheldrakes, Teal; and near the Sea, Curlews, Cranes, Herons, Snipes, Pellicanes, Gannets, Sea-Larks, and many others. *Tame and wild Fowl.*

The wild Beaſts, which the Woods afford for Game, are Rabbets, Foxes, Racoons, Poſſums, Squirrels, wild Cats, Deer, Elks, *Wild Beaſts.*

Elks, Buffaloes, Bears, Tygers, wild Kine and Hogs. Tho' the Names of ſome of theſe Creatures are frightful to thoſe who never ſaw them, yet they are not ſo to us, for there is none of them, but will fly from a Man; nor do they any Injury but to Sheep, Hogs, and young Calves.

Air. The Air of *Carolina* is generally very clear and fine, even when the greateſt Rains fall, the Weather does not continue long cloudy, for the Sun ſoon diſſipates the Fogs, and reſtores the Air to its uſual Serenity. During the Heat of Summer, the Rains are very refreſhing and agreeable, and the Thunder that accompanies them, tho' naturally terrifying, is welcome upon Account of its rarifying the Air. Earthquakes have never yet been known, or heard of in this Country.

Temperature of the Months. The Heats of *Carolina* are indeed troubleſome to Strangers in *June*, *July*, and *Auguſt*, in which Months are ſmart Claps of Thunder, tho' ſeldom doing any Prejudice. But the Inconveniency from the Heat during that Time, is made eaſie by ſhady Groves, open airy Rooms, Arbours and Summer-houſes; and to make ſome amends for it, no Country can afford pleaſanter Weather, in the Spring, Fall, and greateſt Part of Winter. *September*, *October*, *November*, are pleaſant dry Months, neither hot nor

nor cold. *December* and *January* are moderately cold, ſometimes accompanied with ſharp cold North-Weſt Winds, and Froſt, which ſeldom laſt above two or three Days at a time. There is ſcarce ever any Snow, or if it does fall, it lies not above one Night. *February* and *March* are pleaſant, fair, dry Months, anſwering in Temperature to *April* and *May* in *England*, which with us are very agreeable Months, the Weather being then clear and fair, refreſhed with gentle Showers once in eight or ten Days, but equal in Heat to *June* and *July* in *England*.

The Trade between *South Carolina* and *Great Britain*, does, one Year with another, employ 22 Sail of Ships, laden hither with all Sorts of Woollen Cloaths, Stuffs and Druggets, Linnens, Hollands, printed Linnen and Callicoe, Silks and Muſlins, Nails of all ſizes, Hoes, Hatchets, and all Kinds of Iron-ware, Bedticks, ſtrong Beer, bottled Syder, Raiſins, fine Earthen-ware, Pipes, Paper, Rugs, Blankets, Quilts, Hats from 2 *s.* to 12 *s.* Price, Stockings from 1 *s.* to 8 *s.* Price, Gloves, Pewter Diſhes and Plates, Braſs and Copper Ware, Guns, Powder, Bullets, Flints, Glaſs Beads, Cordage, Woollen and Cotten Cards, Steel Hand-mills, Grind-ſtones, Looking and Drinking Glaſſes, Lace, Thread *Trade.*

courſe

courſe and fine, Mohair, and all Kinds of Trimming for Cloaths, Pins, Needles, *&c.* In return for which are remitted from hence about ſeventy Thouſand Deer-skins a Year, ſome Furs, Roſin, Pitch, Tar, Raw Silk, Rice, and formerly Indigo. But ſince all theſe don't balance the continual Demand of *European* Goods, and Negro Slaves, ſent us by the *Engliſh* Merchants, there is likewiſe ſent to *England*, ſome Cocoa-nuts, Sugar, Tortoiſe-ſhell, Money, and other Things, which we have from the *American* Iſlands, in return for our Proviſions. Beſides the 22 Sail above-mention'd, there enter and clear annually at the Port of *Charleſtown*, about 60 Sail of Ships, Sloops, and Brigantines, all from ſome Places of *Africa* or *America*.

From *Jamaica*, *St. Thomas*'s, *Curraſſo*, *Barbadoes*, and the *Leward* Iſlands, we have Sugar, Rum, Moloſſes, Cotton, Chocolate made up, Coco-nuts, Negroes, and Mony. In return whereof we ſend Beef, Pork, Butter, Candles, Soap, Tallow, Myrtle-wax Candles, Rice, ſome Pitch and Tar, Cedar and Pine-boards, Shingles, Hoop-ſtaves, and Heads for Barrels.

From *New-England*, *New-York*, and *Penſilvania*, we have Wheat-flower, Bisket, ſtrong Beer, Cyder, ſalt Fiſh, Onions, Apples, Hops; and return them

them tan'd Hides, ſmall Deer-skins, Gloves, Rice, Slaves taken by the *Indians* in War, ſome Tar and Pitch.

From *Madera* and the Weſtern Iſlands, we have Wine, and in return, ſupply them with Proviſions, Staves, and Heads for Barrels, *&c.* Our Salt comes from the *Bahama* Iſlands.

From *Guinea*, and other Parts of the Coaſt of *Africa*, are imported Negroe-Slaves; but the Ships that bring them being ſent, with the Effects to purchaſe them, from *England*, the Returns are ſent thither.

Government.

In vain would all the Advantages of a fine Air, fruitful Soil, and good Trade, be to us, if not incouraged to improve them by a good Government and Laws. Even your Mountains are preferable to *Lombardy* itſelf, if one muſt there be ſubject to the Caprice and abſolute Pleaſure of a *French* Intendant. But this Colony was founded upon the generous Principles of civil and religious Liberty, on which noble Foundation it hath been raiſed to its preſent Height. And becauſe it is a received Maxim, That all Things proſper beſt by the Uſe of the ſame Means, whereby they were firſt formed, the People have not been wanting to ſecure theſe valuable Priviledges, the Aſſemblies, from time to time, having paſſed Laws

to tranſmit theſe Bleſſings to Poſterity, as fully and largely as we enjoy them at preſent; ſo that the civil Rights of *Engliſhmen*, together with a juſt, impartial, and intire Liberty of Conſcience, are as firmly ſecured to the Inhabitants of this Province, as Acts of the general Aſſembly can make them.

The known Laws among us are the Meaſure and Bounds of Power. The higheſt in Authority cannot legally oppreſs or inſult the meaneſt. Fines, Impriſonments, Death, or other Puniſhments, are not left to the arbitrary Deciſions of the Governours and Judges, but are nicely and particularly preſcribed by the Laws. Thoſe who are intruſted with the Executive Part of the Government, are obliged to know their Bounds; ſo far they may go and no further. It is not here as in thoſe Countries where Slavery is fixed, and ſtrugling with the Chains rivets them the faſter. But Liberty is ſo well and legally eſtabliſhed, that whatever Miſmanagements may be occaſion'd from thoſe who have the Adminiſtration, while a Senſe of Freedom remains, the Vigour of the Conſtitution will throw off theſe politick Diſeaſes, and reſtore the Publick to a State of Health.

The Foundation of this Government is a Charter granted by King *Charles* II.

to

to eight Proprietors, which, together with a Title to the Land, gives them ample Priviledges and Jurisdictions, particularly all such as are any way necessary, to the forming or well ordering a Body politick; reserving always an Allegiance to the Crown of *England*, and to the People who shall settle in *Carolina*, all Rights, Liberties and Franchises of *Englishmen*. By which express Limitation in behalf of his Subjects, the King put it out of their Lordships Power to lay any Hardships upon them, contrary to the Laws of *England*.

This Province is at present in the Hands of the Right Honourable *William* Lord *Craven*, Palatine, the Most Noble *Henry* Duke of *Beaufort*, the Right Honourable Lord *Carteret*, Sir *John Colleton*, *Maurice Ashly* Esq; Mr. *John Danson*, and Mr. *Blake*, a Minor. The Power of the Palatine is considerable, for he hath a Negative in all Orders or Decisions of the whole Board; neither can the other Proprietors hold a Board without he be present, or one delegated to act for him. He cannot, however, enact any thing without the Concurrence of four Proprietors, besides himself. The same Place that the Palatine hath at the Board of Proprietors in *England*, the Governour hath in *Carolina*, besides the Power granted him by Commission.

Governour and Council.

The Governour calls and presides in all Councils of State, which consist of the eight Proprietor's Deputies. With the Assent of four Deputies, he calls, prorogues, or dissolves, the general Assemblies; appoints Civil Officers, such as Justices of the Peace. He assents to, or dissents from Laws, hath a negative Voice in all Acts, Orders, or Ordinances of the general Assemblies; he alone commissionates all military Officers, and disposes of the Militia according to Law, for Defence of the Colony. He bears the Title of Governour, Captain-General, and Admiral, of *South* and *North Carolina.*

In all Affairs, except those that are military, every Counsellour hath an equal Vote with the Governour, and he can do nothing without the Concurrence of four of them at least.

While the Parliament sits, the Governour, with the other seven Deputies, make the upper House, in the Intervals of Parliament, they are the Council of State and Court of Chancery.

The Governour of *South Carolina* is appointed by Commission, sign'd by the Palatine, and at least four more of the Lords Proprietors, during Pleasure. Each Member of the Council hath a Deputation from one or other of the Proprietors, whom he represents. Upon the

the Death or Resignation of any Member of the Council, the Vacancy is filled by the Votes of the Majority of those who remain: And upon the Death of any Governour, one of the Proprietors Deputies is elected Governour by the rest, and continues so till their Lordships send another from *England*, or a new Commission to some other Person.

The Form of Government is as nigh as conveniently can be to that of *England*. The Legislature consists of two Chambers, the upper, which is compos'd of the eight Proprietors Deputies; and the lower of thirty Representatives, chosen by the People. By Law, the Governour is obliged to call an Assembly every two Years. *General Assemblies*

The general Assemblies are call'd by Writs, issued out of the Secretaries Office, under the Seal of the Colony, and Test of the Governour: These are directed to the Sheriff of each County, bearing Date forty Days before the Return, and he is to take Care that they be duly published.

The first Business of the Commons is to choose a Speaker, which being done, they present him to the Governour in a full House, who approves him; then they return to their own House, and proceed to do Business, choosing Committees, and in all other Respects imitating the

Houſe of Commons in *England*, as nigh as poſſible.

The lower Houſe ſeldom paſſes Impoſition-Acts for any time above two Years; and the Reaſon is, That themſelves may be always neceſſary, and retain that Power they have by Law, and preſerve the juſt Ballance of the Government: They likewiſe claim all the Powers, Priviledges, and Immunities, which the Houſe of Commons have in *Great Britain*.

They appoint the publick Treaſurer, call him to an Account, and diſmiſs him, when they ſee fit, by a Vote of their Houſe. For 'tis a received Opinion among them, that the Power of appointing, examining, cenſuring, and diſplacing thoſe who have the public Money in their Hands, is much better lodg'd in the Houſe of Commons, who have ſo great an Intereſt in the Colony, than in the Hands of any Governour, for Reaſons generally known in *America*.

The lower Houſe likewiſe preſents to the Governour all Perſons, who are to receive his Commiſſions, and have any Salary out of the publick Treaſury, ſuch as Captains of Forts, and the like. The Governour, it is true, hath the Power of granting Commiſſions to theſe and other Officers, but then the Treaſurer

cannot

cannot pay them any Salary, unleſs they have been firſt recommended by the Houſe of Commons.

All Bills generally begin, and are form'd in the Houſe of Commons, but no Act, Order, or Ordinance, is of any Force, without having paſſed both Houſes in due Parliamentary Form. All Bills are read three ſeveral Times on three ſeveral Days, in each Houſe, before they can paſs into a Law.

The Method of ratifying Laws is this; After a Bill or Bills have paſſed both Houſes, in due Form, the Clerk of the lower Houſe is order'd to engroſs them, upon fair Paper or Vellum. The Speaker, with the whole Houſe, attend the Governour in the upper Houſe, and preſent the Bills; then the Governour reads the Title, ſigns and ſeals the Bill, and ſays, *In the Name of his Excellency*, William *Lord* Craven, *Palatine*, *I Ratifie and Confirm this Law.* Every one of the other Deputies do and ſay the like, each in the Name of his Principal. After a Bill is thus ratified, ſign'd and ſeal'd by the Governour and four Deputies, it is then proclaim'd and held for Law.

Neither the Members of the Council, nor the Houſe of Commons, in this Province, have any Allowance for attending the publick Service, but do it at their own Expences.

Laws. The Laws of *South Carolina* are either Acts of our own general Assemblies, or the Statute or Common Law of *England.* It is taken for granted with us, that no *English* Laws bind the Plantations, except such as particularly mention them, till they are put in Force by Act of Assembly, in each particular Province.

Because Promulgation is in a manner absolutely necessary to render any Law obligatory, the general Assembly first peruse all *English* Acts of Parliament, draw up an Account of as many intire ones, and Parts of others, as are fit for this Province, and by an Act of Assembly mentioning these Acts, they put them in Force. Thus we have Schedules of such *English* Acts of Parliament made Law, beginning with the great Charter of *England*, and running thro' all the Statutes, down to those made in the Reign of her present Majesty. And this is held to be the most rational Method, both for distinguishing such *English* Laws as are not proper for this Colony, and for promulgating them that are.

By an Act of Assembly, the Common Law of *England* is ordain'd to be of Force here, in Cases not provided for by the Statutes of this Province; with this Exception, nevertheless, that nothing

nothing of a Religious or Eccleſiaſtical Nature, tho' practiſed in *England*, by the Common Law, ſhall be of any Force in *South Carolina*.

Habeas Corpus:

By the Laws of this Colony, the Governour alone, the Chief Juſtice alone, any two of the Council, or two Juſtices of the Peace, have the ſame Power of granting Writs of *Habeas Corpus*, as the Juſtices of either Bench have in *England*, and are under the ſame Penalties in caſe of Neglect or Refuſal.

Method of Summoning Juries.

Tho' it is Commendation ſufficient for our Laws, to ſay they are as nigh to thoſe of *England*, as conveniently may be, yet we have in ſeveral things refin'd upon the *Engliſh* Laws. For Inſtance: The Jurors are not here return'd by the Sheriffs, but the Names of all the beſt qualified Perſons in the County are agreed upon and ſettled by Act of Aſſembly, and put together into a Ballot-box. At the End of every Court this is ſet upon the Table, before the Judge and Bench, and after it is ſhaken, a little Child draws out 48 Names, which are read, and a Liſt of them taken by the Sheriff, that he may know whom to ſummons. Theſe 48 are put in the ſecond Diviſion of the Ballot-box, out of which, at the opening of the next Court, another Child draws 12, who are to ſerve as Jurors, and if any juſt

Exception

Exception be made, he draws others, until the Jury be full. The ſame Method, with little Alteration, is taken in returning Juries for the Seſſions of the Peace. The Names of thoſe who have ſerved are put in the third Diviſion of the Box, where they lie till thoſe in the firſt Diviſion are almoſt all drawn, and then they are again put into this. The Reaſon of their lying in the third Diviſion is, becauſe one Set of Perſons ſhould not be too much burthen'd, but that all ſhould have an equal Share of the Trouble, as nigh as may be.

The Ballot-box hath three Locks and Keys, kept by three ſeveral Perſons appointed by the general Aſſembly, whereof the Judge of the Court is one; neither can the Box be opened without the Preſence of thoſe three.

The Reaſon of all this Precaution in returning Jurors is, for the better and more effectual Preſervation of the Lives and Eſtates of the Inhabitants. For the Sheriffs, Marſhals, and all other ſuch Officers, being appointed by the Governour, and keeping their Places only during his Pleaſure, if the returning of Juries lay in their Power, 'tis more than probable, they might at ſome time or other, pack ſuch Inſtruments as would be ready to gratify him, to the Ruin of any Perſon againſt whom he had conceiv'd

ceiv'd Malice or Displeasure. Considering therefore, how easily frivolous and unjust Prosecutions are set on foot, and Evidences fit for any Turn may be procur'd, nothing can be a greater Security than this noble Law; for after all the Arts and Management betwixt a bad Governour, Judge, and Attorney General, to carry on an illegal Prosecution, the whole Contrivance is at last spoiled by the Impossibility of Packing a Jury for the Purpose.

Our Legislators have wisely consider'd the Frailty and Passions of Men, how difficult it is for those in Power to keep themselves within Bounds, and how inclin'd they are to Resentment; for which Reason, tho' they never endeavoured to abridge their Governour's Power of doing Good, yet, by this and other Methods, they have aimed at leaving them as few Opportunities of doing Hurt as is possible.

Courts of Justice.

For Administration of Justice, Courts of Common-Pleas are held quarterly, by a Chief Justice and some Assistants. No Cause less than forty Shillings can be brought before this Court; all under that Sum are determin'd in an expeditious Manner, by a Justice of the Peace.

There is no other Court superiour to this but the Chancery, of which the Governour is Chief Judge, and the other

ther Counſellours his Aſſiſtants. All Appeals from the Common-Pleas are finally determin'd in Chancery, and from thence are iſſued out Exhibitions and Superſedeas's to inferiour Courts. They act in that Court after the ſame Manner, and claim the ſame Power, which the Court of Chancery hath in *England.*

Seſſions for Pleas of the Crown. The ſame Judge and Aſſiſtants, who keep the Court of Common-Pleas, do, every ſix Months, hold a Seſſions of the Peace, and general Goal-Delivery for the whole Province; before whom are tried all Pleas of the Crown. They ſit generally three or four Days at a Time, till all Buſineſs be done. This Court is attended with all its proper Officers, as the Queen's Attorney, Conſtables, Marſhal, Goaler, *&c.*

The Governour ſigns the Warrant for Execution of Criminals, and hath Power, if he pleaſe, to grant a Reprieve, till their Lordſhips either pardon them, or ſignifie their Pleaſure to the contrary.

Special Courts. For the Benefit of Merchants and others, who are going out of the Province, and cannot ſtay the common Methods of Proceeding at the ordinary Courts, upon Application made to the Chief Juſtice, he is by Law oblig'd immediately to call a Special Court, to determine their Affairs; ſo that Strangers

have

have no juſt Cauſe given of complaining, that the Laws of this Colony have not made ſuitable Proviſion in their behalf.

Probats of Wills, and Letters of Adminiſtration, are granted by the Governour in Council, who is reckoned the Ordinary of the Place, and gives Marriage-Licences, which are left ready ſign'd, with a Blank for the Names, in the Secretary's Office: But thoſe who take them out, generally enter into Bonds, with ſufficient Securities, that they have no Wife already, and that their intended Marriage is in all Reſpects legal. *Probats of Wills.*

All Writs and Precepts run in the Name of his Excellency the Palatine, and the reſt of the true and abſolute Lords Proprietors of *Carolina.* The Attorneys are licenſed by the Chief Juſtice.

The Chief Juſtice's Commiſſion is from the Lords Proprietors, and is uſually during Pleaſure.

Beſides the Governour and Chief Juſtice, the Lords Proprietors appoint the Receiver of their Revenues, Surveyour General, Naval Officer, *&c.* *Officers.*

The Secretary's Buſineſs is to keep the publick Records of the Country, to take care that they be fairly laid up, to make and record all Patents for Land, to file the Certificates of Surveys, to keep a Regiſter of all Deeds, Conveyances, Probats of Wills, and Letters of Admi-

Adminiſtration, to write Commiſſions for Officers civil and military:

The Receiver of the Lords Proprietors has the Charge of their Lordſhips Revenue, receives the Mony paid for the Sale, and Rents of Lands, all Fines in criminal Caſes, and Eſcheats; out of which he pays Salaries to the Governour, Chief Juſtice, Queen's Attorney, and other incident Charges relating to the Support of the Government.

Publick Revenues. The Treaſurer for the Country is appointed by the Houſe of Commons. He keeps all the publick Accounts, receives all Taxes, Duties, and Impoſts, appointed by Acts of Aſſembly; out of which he pays all Sums of Mony, ordain'd to be paid by any Law of the Province, or any Order or Ordinance of Parliament, ſign'd by the Governour and Speaker of the Houſe of Commons. Once, during every Seſſion of the Aſſembly, a Committee of the Houſe of Commons is appointed to examine his Accounts, who generally make a ſtrict Enquiry, compare every Article with his Vouchers, and then make Report of the whole to the Houſe, who, if there be no juſt Objection, paſs the Accounts, order them to be ſign'd by the Speaker, and that is his *Quietus.* This frequent Examination of the publick Revenues and Diſburſements, keeps us from being embarraſs'd with tedious and intricate Accounts.

For

For Defence of the Colony, our Laws oblige every Male Person from 16 to 60 Years of Age, to bear Arms, who are all under their proper Captains, Majors and Colonels, by whom they are duly exercis'd once in two Months. It is not here as in *England*, where an ordinary Mechanic thinks himself too good to be a Soldier. Every one among us is versed in Arms, from the Governour to the meanest Servant, and are all so far from thinking it below them, that most People take Delight in military Affairs, and think no body so fit to defend their Properties as themselves. We have the same Opinion of Arms as the *Romans*, and other free People, generally had, and believe them to be best intrusted with those who have the greatest Interest.

Military Strength and Discipline.

There are likewise enrolled in our Militia, a considerable Number of active, able, Negro Slaves; and the Law gives every one of those his Freedom, who in the Time of an Invasion, kills an Enemy; the publick making Satisfaction to his Master for the Damage sustained by the Slave's Manumission.

Besides these Forces, *English* Officers are appointed over the *Indians* with whom we are in Friendship, who are order'd, with the utmost Expedition, to draw

draw them down to the Sea-coaſt, upon the firſt News of an Allarm. This is reckon'd a very conſiderable Part of our Strength, for there being ſome thouſands of theſe, who are hardy, active, and good Markſmen, excellent at an Ambuſcade, and who are brought together with little or no Charge; in all Probability, if the *French* or *Spaniards* ſhould make any Attempt upon *Carolina*, they might have Reaſon to repent it.

Arms. The Arms which every one is obliged to have, and bring into the Field, are a good Fuſee, carrying a Bullet of about 18 to the Pound, a Cartridge-box, ſo waxt as to keep out all Water, with at leaſt 16 Cartridges, a Sword, or Cutlaſs, Worm, Picker, ſpare Flints, *&c.*

The Inhabitants of *Carolina*, eſpecially thoſe born there, are dextrous and expert in the Uſe of Fire-Arms. If regular Troops excel in performing the Poſtures, this Militia is much ſuperiour in making a true Shot. The Habit of Shooting ſo very well is acquir'd by the frequent Purſuit of Game in the Foreſts.

We have no regular Troops in *Carolina*, except a very few in the Fort, and Sentinels in ſeveral Places along the Coaſt. Upon any Allarm, there are proper Officers appointed to lead a cer-

tain

tain Body of Militia into thoſe Forts where they may be moſt uſeful. And as we have no regular Troops, for many Reaſons we deſire none. A Planter who keeps his Body fit for Service, by Action and a regular Life, is doubtleſs a better Soldier, upon Occaſion, than a Company of raw Fellows raiſed in *England*, whoſe Spirits and Vigour are ſoon pall'd by an idle, effeminate Life, in a warm Climate. And the ſame Charges that would tranſport two or three Companies of regular Troops hither, to ſerve as Soldiers, would ſend the ſame Number of Men, and enable them to ſettle as Planters, who, by their Induſtry, would add to the Improvement and Trade of the Province, and be equally ſerviceable for its Defence.

Since the Beginning of this War we have exerted our ſelves very much in Defence of the Colony, having fortified *Charleſtown* with ſtrong and regular Works, and erected another Fort upon a Point of Land, at the Mouth of *Aſhly* River, which commands the Channel ſo well, that Ships can't eaſily paſs it, when compleatly finiſhed, and furniſhed with large Guns. We have likewiſe been at great Expences in providing neceſſary Supplies of Arms and Ammunition. *Forts.*

Beſides this, there have been undertaken ſeveral foreign Expeditions; one a-

 gainſt

gainſt St. *Auguſtine*, a Town and Garriſon of the *Spaniards*, on the Coaſt of *Florida*, in the Latitude of 29 Degrees; and others againſt the *Spaniards* and *Indians* of *Apalachia*. I ſhall not trouble you with a long Account of theſe Enterpriſes, but only tell you our Forces intirely broke and ruin'd the Strength of the *Spaniards* in *Florida*, deſtroy'd the whole Country, burnt the Towns, brought all the *Indians*, who were not kill'd or made Slaves, into our own Territories, ſo that there remains not now, ſo much as one Village with ten Houſes in it, in all *Florida*, that is ſubject to the *Spaniards*; nor have they any Houſes or Cattle left, but ſuch as they can protect by the Guns of their Caſtle of St. *Auguſtine*, that alone being now in their Hands, and which is continually infeſted by the perpetual Incurſions of the *Indians*, ſubject to this Province.

Theſe Expeditions have added very much to our Strength and Safety; Firſt, by reducing the *Spaniſh* Power in *Florida* ſo low, that they are altogether uncapable of ever hurting us; then by training our *Indian* Subjects in the Uſe of Arms, and Knowledge of War, which would be of great Service to us, in caſe of any Invaſion from an Enemy; and, what is yet more conſiderable, by drawing over to our Side, or deſtroying, all the *Indians*, within

within 700 Miles of *Charleſtown*. This makes it impracticable for any *European* Nation to ſettle on that Coaſt, otherwiſe than as Subjects to the Crown of *Great Britain*; becauſe we are capable of giving them ſuch continual Moleſtation, by the Incurſions of our Savages, that they could not eaſily ſubſiſt, or venture to make any Improvement.

Exchequer Bills and *Public Credit.*

The Charges of theſe Fortifications and Expeditions, though very neceſſary, were yet ſo conſiderable, that they created ſome Uneaſineſs, and the Aſſembly finding it was in vain to ſtruggle with the Difficulty, by raiſing annual Taxes, which could not have been levied ſoon enough to anſwer the preſent Exigency, they concluded to ſtamp Bills of Credit, at firſt for about 6000 Pounds, and having had Experience of them, about 10000 Pounds more ſince.

By the Laws that eſtabliſh the Bills of Credit, their Currency is ſecur'd. To proffer any Payment with them is a Tender in Law, ſo that if the Creditor refuſe to take them, he loſeth his Money, and the Debtor is diſcharg'd from the Minute of the Refuſal. But we have no Inſtance of that Kind, the Funds upon which they are made being ſo good, that they paſs in all Payments without any Demur or Diſſatisfaction.

The Houſe of Commons took extraordinary Care that the Credit of theſe public Bills ſhould be well eſtabliſh'd. They ſuffer'd none to be made by private Banks, not being willing to put it in their Power to injure the Public; but fix'd them on ſuch Foundations which nothing could deſtroy, but what, at the ſame Time, ſhould ruin the whole Province; that is, upon Acts of Aſſembly, appointing ſuch Duties as were not to be taken off till the Bills of Credit were entirely cancell'd.

There never was yet found among us one Inſtance of counterfeiting theſe Bills, and all the Care imaginable has been taken to prevent it: For being firſt ſtamp'd with Blanks left for the Sums, they were brought into a Chamber adjoining to the Houſe of Commons, where they were fill'd up, by a Committee of five, two Members of the Council, and three of the lower Houſe, who, beſides the Flouriſh and the Counter-part, uſual in *England*, ſign'd them with their Hands, and ſeal'd them with one common Seal; ſo that whoever attempted to counterfeit, muſt, beſides the indenting and intricate Flouriſh, imitate five ſeveral well known Hands, and a Seal, which could not remain long undiſcover'd, ſince all theſe Bills are continually circulating thro' the Treaſury.

After

After the Bills were numbred, indented, ſign'd and ſeal'd, they were given to the Treaſurer, together with a Schedule of all Debts due from the Public, which he immediately diſcharg'd with them. Three Commiſſioners are appointed by the Aſſembly to examine the Treaſurer's Books weekly, and to ſee that ſuch Bills, lying in his Hands, be cancell'd, which the neceſſary Expences of the Public do not require to be uſed.

Our Bills of Credit were at firſt made to run with 12 *per Cent.* Intereſt; but upon making the ſecond Parcel, the Aſſembly was ſenſible of the great Inconvenience of that Method. For it not only made the Currency more difficult, by reaſon of the Endorſements, and computing the Times they had lain in the Treaſury; but gave the Treaſurer likewiſe an Opportunity of injuring the Public, by giving Credit for what Time he thought fit, as often as they came into his Hands. Beſides, the Intereſt gave Encouragement to People to hoard them, which was a common Prejudice, by keeping ſo great a Part of the Caſh from circulating in Trade. And laſtly, this devouring Intereſt was ſuch a conſtant Addition to the public Debt, that, if continued, it would have made it impoſſible to ſink the Bills in any reaſonable Time, unleſs by troubleſome Taxes.

Theſe Reaſons made the Aſſembly Enact, That from that Time forward, the Bills of Credit ſhould run to all Intents and Purpoſes as they had done, without any Intereſt at all. And we quickly found the Benefit of it. For this both eaſed the Public of a great Burthen, and the Bills circulated more in Trade, and with leſs Difficulty among the common People. The Aſſembly indeed, by this Act, expos'd themſelves to the Cenſure of thoſe who little regard the public, ſo long as their own private Intereſt is advanc'd; but they wiſely conſider'd, that to ſave the Public 2000 Pounds a Year was more to be regarded, than to gratifie the unreaſonable Avarice of ſome particular Perſons.

It is probable, there are very few Countries where public Credit is better preſerved than with us, or where Paper-Caſh circulates more ſmoothly. And this proceeds from every ones being ſatisfied of the Goodneſs of the Funds, and the Honour which the Aſſemblies have always taken Care to preſerve, in diſcharging all juſt Demands upon the Public, together with the good Husbandry they have us'd in diſpoſing of the public Money; Frugality being a Vertue very uſeful in large Governments, but abſolutely neceſſary in ſmall and poor ones.

Bills

Bills of Credit with us have never fallen lower than the intrinſic, nor can they well do ſo, upon thoſe Principles whereon they are eſtabliſhed.

Public Revenues.

There are at preſent no Taxes in *South Carolina*, either upon real or perſonal Eſtates: But the public Revenue ariſes from Duties laid upon all Spirits, Wines, and other Liquors; upon Slaves, Sugars, Moloſſes, Flower, Bisket, *&c.* upon all dry Goods imported, 3*l. per Cent.* and 3*d. per* Skin upon all Dear-skins exported. All theſe Duties together, may, at preſent, amount to about 4500 Pounds *per Ann.* out of which the yearly Disburſements are as follow.

To 10 Miniſters of the Church of *England*	1000 *l.*
For finiſhing and repairing Fortifications	1000
For the Officers of Forts and Sentinels	600
To the Governour	200
For military Stores	300
Accidental Charges	400
	3500 *l.*

Which taken out of 4500*l.* there remain yearly 1000 *l.* to cancel ſo many of the Bills of Credit.

This Computation is nigh the Truth this preſent Year; but the State of things is alterable, either by unexpected Demands upon the Public, or by the Increaſe of Trade, and conſequently of the Revenue.

Assessments. Assessments have seldom been us'd with us: When there are any, the Method is, for the Assembly to ascertain the Sum to be raised, and appoint Assessors, who shall lay it equally upon all real and personal Estates, throughout the Province. They appoint likewise Officers in every Precinct, who return to the Assessors, upon Oath, a Schedule both of the Persons and Estates, in their respective Divisions. All Persons who are assess'd have this Priviledge, That if they believe themselves tax'd for more than their due Proportion, they may swear to the real Value of their Estates, and so procure an Abatement of what they are over-rated.

Coin. Besides Bills of Credit, the Money most common in this Province is *French* Pistoles, *Spanish* and *Arabian* Gold; which before the late Act, that regulates the Currency of Money in the *English* Colonies, past at 6 *s.* and 3 *d.* a Penny-weight, and 3 *d.* every odd Grain; *Dutch* and *German* Dollars, and *Peruvian* Pieces of Eight, passed at 5 *s.* *Mexican* Pieces of Eight, of twelve Penny-weight, at 5 *s.* every Penny-weight above twelve to seventeen being 3 ½ *d.* more. We have likewise 7 ½ *d.* and 3 ½ *d.* Pieces of *Spanish* Money, commonly call'd Royals, and Half-Royals. There is little *English* Money, but what is, goes at 50 *l. per Cent.*

Cent. Advance, that is, a Crown at 7 *s.* and 6 *d.* a Guinea at 32 *s.* and 3 *d.* and so in proportion.

South Carolina was first settled about the Year 1667. The Penal Laws then in Force in *Great Britain*, contributing very considerably to send the first *English* Colonies hither. It has likewise had a large Addition of Inhabitants by the Revocation of the Edict of *Nants*, the *French* Refugees having found here a safe and pleasant Retreat, from the rigid Church Discipline of their Dragooning Apostles. They live in good Friendship with, and are belov'd by the *English*, who being sensible, that their Assistance has contributed not a little to improve the Country, have been ready to oblige them upon all Occasions, wherein it lay in their Power; as in passing general Laws of Naturalization, admitting them into all Posts Civil and Military. And this good Understanding not only continues, but increases daily, by Cohabitation and Intermarriages. *People.*

The *European* Inhabitants of this Province are, for the most part, People of Sobriety and Industry; which, together with the Advantage of the Climate, enable them to live in great Affluence of most things necessary for Life. I may venture to say, that this Country is much better improv'd than any other *English* Colony

Colony on the Continent of *America*, in proportion to the Length of Time, and Stock of *English* Mony originally expended in Settling it.

No People are more hospitable, generous, and willing to do good Offices to Strangers; every one is ready to entertain them freely, with the best they have. That Morosenes and Sullenness of Temper, so common in other Places, is very rare among us.

Tho' we are so happily situated, that no body is obliged to beg or want Food, yet the Charity of the Inhabitants is very remarkable, in taking suitable Methods to prevent any Persons falling into extream Necessity. For Commissioners are appointed by Act of Assembly, to take Care of the Poor, and necessary Helps are settled for that End; tho' there are few Occasions to make use of this Provision, unless towards the Widows or Children of such Strangers, who die before they are comfortably settled. And even in these Cases so many People are inclined to support them, that the Commissioners are not often troubled; their Neighbours of Substance generally taking one or two such unfortunate Orphans, whom they not only educate, and provide for, with a great deal of Humanity, during their Minority, but likewise are very generous and liberal in assisting them,

them, after they are grown up, to ſettle themſelves in the World. For People here are not yet arrived to that ſordid Temper and partial Fondneſs, to breed their own Children to the Height of Delicacy, and ſuffer others of the ſame Blood and Nation, to be deſtitute of the common Neceſſaries of Life.

Thoſe born of *European* Parents, are for the moſt part very temperate, and have generally an Averſion to exceſſive Drinking. I cannot at preſent call to mind above two or three in the whole Province, addicted to that Vice. They are likewiſe ingenious, of good Capacities, and quick Apprehenſions, and have Heads excellently well turn'd for mechanical Works and Inventions; with little or no teaching, they'll make Houſes, Mills, Sloops, Boats, and the like.

All People in this Colony are either Planters, Traders, Artiſans, *Indian* Subjects, or Negroe Slaves. A Planter is a common Denomination for thoſe who live by their own and their Servants Induſtry, improve their Eſtates, follow Tillage or Graſing, and make thoſe Commodities which are tranſported from hence to *Great Britain*, and other Places.

It is not neceſſary to inſert the exact Numbers of the ſeveral Inhabitants; but the Proportions they bear to one another

nother, and each to the whole, are as follows,

Whites	Planters	as	8 ½	to 12.
	Traders		1 ½	
	Artiſans		2	

All the Whites			12	to 100.
Indian Subjects	to the whole,	as	66	
Negro Slaves			22	

Servants. There are very few *European* Servants, and theſe are treated with as much Gentleneſs as any where in the World, being ſeldom put to other Employments than to exerciſe ſome Trade, overſee a Plantation, or to carry Goods to Market; the greateſt Drudgeries being perform'd by Slaves. And upon the Expiration of four Years, they who came Servants, are as free in all Reſpects, and as much entituled to the Privileges of the Country, as any other Inhabitants whatſoever.

Laws of Naturalization. By many Acts of the General Aſſembly, all foreign Proteſtants, of what Denomination ſoever, are made Denizens within three Months after their Arrival, and no other Qualification requir'd than to go before ſome Magiſtrate, and take the Oath of Allegiance, by which the Perſon is naturalized to all Intents and Purpoſes.

It

It muſt needs be very acceptable to all good Chriſtians, to hear that Religion and Piety have increas'd and flouriſhed among us, in good Meaſure; the Labours of ſome reverend Perſons, who have exerted themſelves in the Service of their great Maſter, having been bleſs'd with very deſireable Succeſs; which beſides the Advantages in reſpect to a future Life, has alſo greatly contributed to the Good of the Society, by refining thoſe Diſpoſitions which were otherwiſe rude and untractable. *Religion.*

There are eight Miniſters of the Church of *England*, three *French* Proteſtant Congregations, whereof two of their Miniſters are lately proſelyted to the Church, five of *Britiſh* Presbyterians, one of Anabaptiſts, and a ſmall one of Quakers. The Miniſters of the Church of *England* have each 100 *l. per Annum*, paid out of the public Treaſury, beſides Contributions and Perquiſites from their Pariſhioners. The other Miniſters are maintain'd by voluntary Subſcriptions. The Proportions that the ſeveral Parties in Religion do bear to the whole, and each other, is at preſent as follows,

Epiſcopal

Episcopal Party	to the whole, as 10	4 ¾	10
Presbyterians, including those *French* who retain their own Discipline		4 ½	
Anabaptists		1	
Quakers		0 ¼	
		10	

Lands. Nothing can be more reasonable than the Price of Lands in this Province; we must do their Lordships the Justice to say, they have always, in that Respect, dealt with great Favour and Gentleness. The first twenty Years they got little or nothing at all, and since not much more than is barely sufficient to support the necessary Charges of the Government. By this Conduct the Proprietors have advanc'd the Interest of the *English* Nation to their own present Loss. For if their Lordships had not remitted many Years Arrears of Rent, if they had not waited a great while for Money due for Lands, and suffer'd the People to supply themselves with Slaves, before they paid it; if they had not sold their Lands, and established their Rents, at so moderate a Rate; the Country had not been in Circumstances to purchase all the Effects brought yearly from *Great Britain*, in 22 Sail of Ships, as they now do.

The

The Method has hitherto often been for Men to ſettle themſelves upon a Piece of Ground, improve it, build, raiſe, ſtock, plant Orchards, and make ſuch Commodities, which being ſold, procur'd them Slaves, Horſes, Houſhold-Goods, and the like Conveniencies; and after this was done, in ſeven or eight Years they might begin to think it Time to pay the Lords ſomething for their Land.

Tenure of Lands.

Free and common Soccage is the Tenure by which Lands are held, a ſmall Quit-Rent being paid annually to the Proprietors, as Lords of the Fee, in lieu of all Services, Perquiſites, and Demands whatſoever. There are two Ways of taking out Titles; one is by Purchaſe, at twenty Pounds a thouſand Acres, paid to the Lords Reciever, the Grant whereof reſerves to their Lordſhips an annual Rent of a Shilling for each hundred Acres; the other is without any Purchaſe-money paid down, but by taking out a Patent, upon Condition to pay yearly to the Lords Proprietors a Penny for each Acre. Every one is at Liberty to chooſe which of theſe Methods he will, tho' the former, being much preferable, is moſt common.

The Tenour of the Grants of Lands from the Proprietors, runs to this Purpoſe: Firſt their Lordſhips Title by

a Charter from K. *Charles* II. is recited; then, in Conſideration of ſo much Money there acknowledg'd to be received, they ſell, alienate, and make over unto *A. B.* his Heirs, *&c.* a Plantation, containing ſo many Acres of Land, ſituate and lying in ſuch a County, and having ſuch a Form and Marks, as appear by the Plan of it annex'd, he or they paying for the ſame, the Sum of one Shilling yearly, for each hundred Acres, in lieu of all Dues or Demands whatſoever.

When a Perſon would take up Land, (as we term it) he firſt views the Place, and ſatisfies himſelf that no other has any Property there, and then goes to the Secretary, and takes out a Warrant for the Quantity he deſires. Warrants ready ſign'd by the Governour are left with proper Blanks in the Secretaries Office, and directed to the Surveyor, impowering him to meaſure and lay out ſuch a Number of Acres for ſuch a Perſon, and to return a Plan and Certificate thereof into the Secretaries Office. Then the Secretary files the Certificates, and writes a Grant (the Form whereof is ſettled by Act of Aſſembly) which he annexes to the Plan, and carries it next Council Day, into the Council, to be ſign'd by the Governour, and ſuch of the Council as are Truſtees for the Sale of Lands, and ſealed with the publick Seal of the Colony. If the

Grant

Grant is to be for Lands purchas'd, a Record of the Receipt of the Purchase-Money by the Lords Reciever, must be produced, as a Warrant for signing the Patent.

Method and Charges of Settling.

If any one designs to make a Plantation, in this Province, out of the Woods, the first thing to be done is, after having cutt down a few Trees, to split Palissades, or Clapboards, and therewith make small Houses or Huts, to shelter the Slaves. After that, whilst some Servants are clearing the Land, others are to be employed in squaring or sawing Wall-plats, Posts, Rafters, Boards and Shingles, for a small House for the Family, which usually serves for a Kitchin afterwards, when they are in better Circumstances to build a larger. During the Time of this Preparation, the Master Overseer, or white Servants, go every Evening to the next Neighbour's House, where they are lodg'd and entertain'd kindly, without any Charges. And if the Person have any Wife or Children, they are commonly left in some Friend's House, till a suitable dwelling Place and Conveniencies are provided, fit for them to live decently.

Time of Settling.

The propereſt Time to begin a Settlement is in *September*, or, at fartheſt, before the firſt of *December*. The Time between that and the firſt of *March* is

 ſpent

ſpent in cutting down and burning the Trees, out of the Ground, deſign'd to be ſowed that Year, ſplitting Rails, and making Fences round the Corn Ground, and Paſture. The ſmalleſt Compuration uſually made is, that each labouring Perſon will, in this Time, clear three Acres fit for Sowing.

In the ſecond Fall, or Winter, after a Plantation is ſettled, they make Gardens, plant Orchards, build Barns, and other convenient Houſes. The third or fourth Winter, Perſons of any Subſtance provide Brick, Lime, or other Materials, in order to build a good Houſe. The Lime here is all made of Oiſter-ſhells, burnt with Wood; of theſe there is great Plenty lying in and by all Creeks and Rivers, in great Heaps or Beds, where large Boats are loaden at low Water.

Our Cows graze in the Foreſts, and the Calves being ſeparated from them, and kept in Paſtures, fenced in, they return home at Night to ſuckle them. They are firſt milk'd, then ſhut up in a Fold all Night, milk'd again in the Morning, and then turn'd out into the Woods. Hogs rove ſeveral Miles over the Foreſts, eating ſuch Nuts and Ground-Roots as they can find; but having a Shelter made at home to keep them warm, and ſomething given them to eat, they generally return every Evening.

People

People who design to make their Fortunes in new Countries, ſhould conſider beforehand, what Method, or Courſe of Life, they purpoſe to follow, when they arrive there; and not flatter themſelves with vain Fancies, as if Riches were to be got without Induſtry, or taking ſuitable Methods to attain them. 'Tis Encouragement ſufficient for a rational Man to know, that when due Means are us'd, they ſeldom fail of obtaining the End. In this Province as little will ſerve to put a Perſon into a Way of living comfortably, as in any Place whatever, and perhaps leſs. That you and your Friends may be throughly convinc'd of this, without being led into any Miſtakes, I ſhall here firſt inſert an Account of what is neceſſary to ſettle a Planter to live with Comfort and Decency; and next, a Liſt of what is ſufficient to ſettle an Eſtate of 300 *l.* a Year, from which you may proportion other Conditions of Life as you pleaſe.

In order to live comfortably, after a Man's own and Family's Paſſage is paid, and Cloaths bought for the firſt Year or two, he muſt have,

Charges of Settling an Estate of about 30 l. a Year.

2 Negro Slaves, 40 *l.* each	80 *l.*
4 Cows and Calves, 1 *l.* 5 *s.* each	5
4 Sows, 15 *s.* each. A Canoe 3 *l.*	6
A Steel Mill, or Pair of Querns,	3
Axes, Hoes, Wedges, Hand-saws, Hammers, and other Tools,	2
200 Acres of Land 4 *l.* Survey and other Charges 2 *l.*	6
A small House for the first Year or two,	8
Corn, Pease, Beef, Pork, *&c.* for the first Year,	14
Expences and Contingencies,	26
	150 *l.*

This Calculation is made in the Money of the Province, which is just 100 *l.* Sterling.

The Things mention'd here are of Necessity to one who would settle with any tollerable Decency. And from this small Begining, by moderate Industry, accompanied with the Blessing of Heaven, a Man may get a competent Estate, and live very handsomly. But there are many who settle without any Slaves at all, but labour themselves.

Here follows an Account of what is necessary to settle an Estate of 300 *l.* *per Annum*, with the Value of the Particulars, as they are most commonly sold there.

30 Ne-

30 Negroes, 15 Men and 15 Women, 40 *l.* each,	1200 *l.*	*Charges of Settling* 300 l. per Annum.
20 Cows and Calves, 1 *l.* 5 *s.* each	25	
2 Mares, 1 Stone-horse, 10 *l.* each, 6 Sows and a Boar 6 *l.*	36	
1000 Acres of Land, 20 *l.* Survey and other necessary Charges 7 *l.*	27	
A large Periagoe 20 *l.* a small Canoe 2 *l.* a Steel Mill 4 *l.*	26	
10 Ewes and a Ram 7 *l.* 3 dozen Axes 6 *l.*	13	
Hoes, Hatchets, Broad Axes, Nails, Saws, Hammers; Wedges, Maul Rings, a Froe, and other necessary Tools.	23	
Ploughs, Carts, with their Chains and Irons,	10	
A small House for the first Year or two, afterwards a Kitchen.	20	
300 Bushels of *Indian* Corn and Pease, at 2 *s.* 6 *d.* *per* Bushel, with some Beef, Pork, *&c.* for the first Years Provision,	50	
Expences and Contingencies,	70	
Total	1500 *l.*	

This Sum of *Carolina* Money being reduc'd to Sterling, makes 1000 *l.*

The 30 Negroes begining to work in *September* or *October*, will clear 90 Acres of Land, plant and hoe it; half of which, that is 45 Acres, sowed with Rice, will, after the common Computation, yield

1000 Weight an Acre, which ſold at 15 *s.* a hundred, the middle Price, amounts to 337 *l.* 10 *s.* The other 45 Acres are to be ſowed with *Indian* Corn, Peaſe, Pompions, Potatoes, Melons, and other Eatables, for the Uſe of the Family.

I am ſo far from exceeding due Bounds in this Calculation, that I don't by much come up to what I know is annually done by many. This ſhews the very great Difference between purchaſing an Eſtate of Land in *England*, and ſettling one in this Province. For the Sum of 1000 *l.* laid out in *England*, at 20 Years Purchaſe, will buy but 50 *l.* a Year, and here it ſettles 337 *l.* 10 *s. per Ann.* Money of this Colony, which is 225 *l.* Sterling, beſides maintaining a Houſe in great Plenty, with moſt Sorts of Proviſions neceſſary for Life. And to give the larger Allowance, I have not inſerted the Profit to be made in remitting the 1000 *l.* in proper Goods, but have reckon'd it as brought hither in Specie.

As for thoſe who have no Subſtance to bring with them, they are either Labourers or Tradeſmen, for whoſe Satisfaction I ſhall inſert the uſual Wages and Prices of Labour.

Price of Labour.

		s.	d.
A Tailor	hath *per Diem*	05	00
A Shooe-maker		02	06
A Smith		07	06
A Weaver		03	00
A Bricklayer		06	00
A Cowper		04	00

A Carpenter and Joiner have from 3 to 5 *s.*
A Day-labourer from 1 *s.* 3 *d.* to 2 *s.* with Lodging and Diet.
Those w' , overſee Plantations *per Ann.* from 15 to 40 *l.*
Such as are imploy'd to trade with the *Indians* from 20 to 100 *l.*

Proper Seaſon of coming hither.

The beſt Time for *Europeans* to arrive here, in reſpect to Health, is *September*; for then they have eight Months moderate Weather, before the Heat comes, in which Time the Climate will become agreeable.

If a conſiderable Number of People ſhould form a Deſign of coming hither, to ſettle in a Community or Neighbourhood, it would be proper to ſend Agents beforehand, to chooſe convenient Lands, and purchaſe Corn, and other Neceſſaries. And if theſe made a common Plantation, at the Charges of a Joint-Stock, a Year or two before the Arrival of the others, about the Middle of the Place where they deſign'd a Settlement, and ſtock'd it with 20 Negroes, Cows, Hogs, *&c.* it would be very uſeful to ſhelter and receive their Friends upon their firſt Landing; the Sick, likewiſe, might be there taken Care of,

and the poor ſupplied with Corn for their firſt Year's Proviſion; of all which Accounts might be kept, and Payments made, when they that received it grew able.

This Country, perhaps, may not abound ſo much with thoſe gay and noiſy Amuſements, which generally the great and rich affect; but for ſuch who have experienc'd the Frowns of Fortune, and have yet ſomething left to make a handſome Retreat from the World; for thoſe who affect Solitude, Contemplation, Gardening, Groves, Woods, and the like innocent Delights of plain ſimple Nature, and who, with a ſmall Fortune, would provide ſome competent fix'd Settlement for themſelves and Children; there can ſcarce any Place in the *Britiſh* Dominions be found, that will better anſwer their Expectation. As there are no Beggars among us, ſo we cannot pretend there are any vaſtly rich, few Eſtates exceeding 1000 or 1200 *l.* a Year, and from thence gradually down to 30 *l.* Moſt of us enjoy that State of Life which many People reckon the happieſt, a moderate Subſiſtance, without the Vexation of Dependance.

Advantage of this Province to Great Britain.

When I conſider of what Importance this Colony may be in time to the *Britiſh* Nation, the great Quantities of their Manufactures it might take off, and the

Variety

Variety of Commodities which it is capable of producing, to make ſuitable Returns; I am perfectly ſurpriſed there ſhould not be the leaſt Care taken to encreaſe the Number of its Inhabitants. If the ſmall Number here at preſent imploys two and twenty Sail of *Engliſh* Ships, beſides ſixty ſmaller Veſſels from other Parts; to what Height may the Trade be brought, if the People were fifty times the Number they are now, which the Country would eaſily contain?

The Scituation of this Province is ſuch as not to interfere with *England*, in any Branches of its Manufacture; there is no Mony requir'd to be ſent hither; it is capable of producing many Commodities, which are now brought from other Nations, by Money exported from *England*. The Government may always regulate the Trade as they pleaſe, which they cannot do in foreign Dominions, but by Treaty and Conſent.

South Carolina may be made uſeful to *Great Britain*, if the Lords Commiſſioners of Trade, would pleaſe to concert Meaſures for ſending hither all, or at leaſt ſome of the moſt neceſſary Commodities which the Country is capable of producing. For which End, it might not be amiſs to conſult the Growth and Product of ſuch Countries, as lie in or near the ſame Latitude, and from Correſpondents there,

there, as Consuls or Merchants, to get Seeds of each Kind well preserv'd, and as soon as possible remit them to *Carolina*; such, for instance, as Almonds, Dates, Olives of several Kinds, Coffee, Tea, great Variety of Grape-Stones, all Sorts of Drugs from *Barbary*, *Persia*, *Egypt*, *Syria*, *&c.* Persons might likewise be sent over, who are perfectly skill'd in making Potash, and others expert in framing mechanical Engines, as Saw-mills to go with the Wind, and the like.

Moreover, 'tis to be wish'd, that upon the Conclusion of this War, the Government would erect a Fund for transporting annually hither, for some Years, 100 Families, of the poorer Sort of People, suppose but of three Persons, one with another, either of their own Nation or Foreigners, and furnish them with Necessaries to help them in Settling, and for their Support the first Year; which would amount to about 20 *l.* Sterling a Head. That the Kingdom would soon find its Account in this, I shall endeavour to demonstrate, by computing what Advantage 'twould receive in 20 Years, by sending 100 Families, or 300 Persons, whereof we will suppose but 100 are Men. I shall not here proceed in that extravagant Manner, usual with some in Calculations of this Kind, but observe such a Medium as must be granted

ed to be very moderate, by all who consider the Matter. Wherefore, to give yet the greater Allowance, I will suppose for the present, that white Women and Children are of no Advantage, (tho' 'tis not altogether so) and only reckon Men fit to Labour, and the Slaves of both Sexes.

I consider, then, no other Advantage the first seven Years, but that each Family hath purchas'd four Slaves; and suppose of themselves to be diminish'd by Death ten in a hundred, so that at the End of seven Years, the Account will stand thus:

White Men	90
Slaves of both Sexes	360
Labouring People	450
The lowest Computation usually made is, that each labouring Person here does, one with another, add 5 *l.* yearly to the Wealth of *Great Britain*, which, in the whole, is *per Annum*,	5 — 2250 *l.*

About the twentieth Year there will be an Addition both to the Whites and Slaves, by Propagation and Purchase, of about fifty in the hundred; wherefore the

the Account of the yearly Advantage to *Great Britain*, will then ſtand thus:

White Men	135
Slaves of both Sexes	540
Labouring People	675
	5
Theſe at 5 *l.* each *per Annum*, will, in the whole, yield to *Great Britain* the annual Sum of	3375 *l.*

At the End of the firſt ſeven Years, the Profit of the Year enſuing has been computed at 2250 *l.*
In the 20th Year at 3375

Which together make 5625

And half being taken for a Medium of the annual Advantage, is	2812 *l.* 10 *s.*
This multiplied by the Number of Years from 7 to 20, *viz.* 13.	13
Amounts to	36562 *l.* 10 *s.*

Advantage in the whole 20 Years.

Tho' the Value of what ſuch a Settlement may be afterwards worth cannot well be computed, yet to make ſome ſmall

ſmall Eſtimate, I ſhall ſuppoſe the aforeſaid 300 Perſons, their Slaves, improv'd Lands and Deſcendants, to be worth to the *Britiſh* Nation, only after the common Value of Eſtates in Land, at 20 Years Purchaſe.

	l. *s.*
Yearly Value the 20th Year	3375 : 00
	20
Real Value at 20 Years Purchaſe	67500 : 00
Advantage of the whole firſt 20 Years	36562 : 10
Total	104062 : 10

This certainly is Profit ſufficient to encourage them to lay out 6000 Pounds, and that not in Money, but in Freight, Cloaths, Tools, and other Neceſſaries, which is no great Loſs to the Kiingdom in general, only a Charge to the Government.

Having calculated the Benefit accruing to the *Britiſh* Nation, for laying out 6000 Pounds, to be at the End of 20 Years 36562 Pounds, 10 Shillings, in Money already received, and a real Eſtate ſettled, worth at leaſt 67500 Pounds, I ſhall now compute what Advantage the Proprietors will make, which the firſt ſeven Years is nothing.

At

At the End of 7 Years	90 Families.
On the 20th Year	135
Together	225
Half of which being taken for a Medium is	112

I ſuppoſe then in the 13th Year, which is the Medium between 7 and 20, every Family buys 400 Acres of Land

112 Families
400

44800 Acres.

	l.	*s.*
Theſe 44800 Acres, at 20 *l.* a Thouſand, come to	896	00
The Yearly Rents at 20 *s.* 1000 Acres, for 7 Years, *viz.* from the 13th to the 20th Year	313	12
The Lords have receiv'd at the End of twenty Years	1209	12
The real Value of theſe 44800 Acres, yielding 44 *l.* 16 *s.* *per Ann.* at 20 Years Purchaſe, comes to	896	00
The whole	2105	12

Sub-

	l.	s.
Subtract a fourth Part for Loſs, Expences in receiving, and the neceſſary Charges of the Government, there will then remain	1579	04

This compared with the Profit already computed to redound to the Kingdom, is almoſt the ſixty ſixth Part thereof, and juſt that Proportion of Charges, according to the ſtrict Rules of Juſtice, the Lords Proprietors of *Carolina* ſhould allow for carrying on a Deſign of tranſporting People, and rendering the Country more uſeful and profitable to the *Britiſh* Nation than it is at preſent.

Thus, Sir, I have endeavour'd, in as few Words as I could, to acquaint you with what I think is moſt requiſite for you to know, relating to this Province. I might eaſily have ſwell'd my Letter to a regular Treatiſe, but fearing to be tedious, have left many Things untouch'd, and could not well ſay leſs, without falling ſhort in giving you that Satisfaction you deſire, and which it will always be my Ambition you ſhould receive from me, in whatever Demands you are pleas'd to lay upon,

SIR,

Charleſtown,
June 1. 1710.

Your, &c.